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# FREE PRODUCTS WITH AMALGAMATION OF ORTHODOX

## SEMIGROUPS

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### 1. Introduction

A class of algebras  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to have the strong amalgamation property if for any family of algebras  $\{A_i : i \in I\}$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ , each having an algebra  $U \in \mathcal{A}$  as a subalgebra, there exist an algebra  $B$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  and monomorphisms  $\phi_i : A_i \rightarrow B$ ,  $i \in I$ , such that

$$(i) \quad \phi_i|_U = \phi_j|_U \text{ for all } i, j \in I,$$

$$(ii) \quad A_i \phi_i \cap A_j \phi_j = U \phi_i \text{ for all } i, j \in I \text{ with } i \neq j,$$

where  $\phi_i|_U$  denotes the restriction of  $\phi_i$  to  $U$ . Omitting the condition (ii) gives us the definition of the weak amalgamation property. Adding the condition that  $A_i = A_j$  for all  $i, j \in I$ , to the hypothesis of the definition of the strong amalgamation property gives us the definition of the special amalgamation property.

It is well-known (see [ 3 ]) that in a class of algebras closed under isomorphisms and the formation of the union of any ascending chain of algebras, each amalgamation property follows from the case  $|I| = 2$ . Hence we shall consider, in this paper, only the case  $|I| = 2$ .

The classes of algebras for which the strong or the weak amalgamation properties are known to hold are "groups, groups

with a given operator domain, commutative groups, fields, differential fields of characteristic 0, partially ordered sets, lattices, Boolean algebras, locally finite-dimensional cylindric algebras of a given infinite dimension [ 6 ], pseudocomplemented distributive lattices  $\mathcal{B}_n$ ,  $n \leq 2$  or  $n = \omega$  [ 2 ], inverse semigroups, semilattices [ 3 ], commutative inverse semigroups [ 4 ]".

In section 2, we shall first study the free product of orthodox semigroups. Secondly, we shall give the free product of the variety  $\mathcal{A}$  of bands defined by an identity. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is the variety of [left, right] normal bands, we can describe it in a more useful form.

In section 3, we shall add the following classes of semigroups to the list above: "[left, right] normal bands, rectangular bands, left[right] zero semigroups, one element semigroups,  $M[L.N, R.N]$ -inversive semigroups". Moreover, the variety of bands defined by an identity  $P = Q$  has the strong amalgamation property if and only if  $P = Q$  is a permutation identity or a heterotypical identity.

In section 4, we shall show that the varieties of [left, right] regular bands, left[right] quasinormal bands and [left, right] generalized inverse semigroups have the special amalgamation property.

The notations and terminologies are those of [ 1 ] and [ 8 ], unless otherwise stated.

## 2. Free products

At first, we shall give the free product in the class of orthodox semigroups. Let  $S_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , be a family of orthodox semigroups, and let  $S$  be the free product of the  $S_i$  in the class of semigroups. For  $x = x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_k}$ ,  $x_{i_j} \in S_{i_j}$ , in a reduced form in  $S$ , set

$$W(x) = \{ x'_{i_k} \dots x'_{i_2} x'_{i_1} : x_{i_j} \in V(x_{i_j}) \},$$

where  $V(x_{i_1}) (= V_{S_{i_1}}(x_{i_1}))$  denotes the set of inverses of  $x_{i_1}$  in  $S_{i_1}$ . If  $x \in S_i$ , it is obvious  $W(x) = V_{S_i}(x)$ .

By an argument similar to the proof of [ Theorem 1, 7 ], we have the following theorem.

**THEOREM 2. 1.** Let  $\sim$  denote the congruence on  $S$  generated by all pairs  $(xx'x, x)$  and  $(x_1 x'_1 x_2 x'_2 \dots x_n x'_n, x_1 x'_1 x_2 x'_2 \dots x_n x'_n x_1 x'_1 x_2 x'_2 \dots x_n x'_n)$  for  $x, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  in  $S$  and for  $x' \in W(x)$  and  $x'_j \in W(x_j)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Then  $S/\sim$  is the free product of the  $S_i$  in the class of orthodox semigroups.

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the variety of bands defined by an identity  $P = Q$ . If  $P = Q$  is heterotypical, it follows from [ 8 ] that  $\mathcal{A}$  is one of the varieties of rectangular bands, left zero semigroups, right zero semigroups and one element semigroups. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the variety of rectangular bands. Let  $\{ S_i : i \in I \}$  be a family of rectangular bands. For each  $S_i$ , there exist a left zero semigroup  $L_i$ , say, and a right zero semigroup  $R_i$ , say, such that  $S_i \approx L_i \times R_i$ ,  $i \in I$ . We can

assume without loss of generality that  $L_i \cap L_j = \square$  and  $R_i \cap R_j = \square$  if  $i \neq j$ . Let  $L = \cup \{ L_i : i \in I \}$ ,  $R = \cup \{ R_i : i \in I \}$  and  $B = L \times R$ . Define a product  $\circ$  on  $B$  as follows:

$$(a_1, b_1) \circ (a_2, b_2) = (a_1, b_2).$$

It is clear that  $B(\circ)$  is the free product of the  $S_i$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Similarly, we can easily construct the free products in the other three varieties of bands.

So we now consider the free product in the variety of bands defined by a homotypical identity.

**THEOREM 2. 2.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the variety of bands defined by a homotypical identity  $P(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = Q(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ . Let  $S_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , be a family of bands belonging to  $\mathcal{A}$ , and let  $S$  be the free product of the  $S_i$  in the class of semigroups. Let  $\sim$  be the congruence on  $S$  generated by all pairs  $(x^2, x)$  and  $(P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), Q(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n))$  for  $x, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  in  $S$ . Then  $S/\sim$  is the free product of the  $S_i$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Next, we shall consider the free product in the variety of [left, right] normal bands. In this case we can describe it in a more useful form. Let  $E_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , be a family of normal bands. It follows from [9] that each  $E_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , is isomorphic to the spined product  $L_i \bowtie R_i(\Gamma_i)$  of a left normal band  $L_i$  and a right normal band  $R_i$  with respect to a semilattice  $\Gamma_i$ . Let  $L_i \equiv \Sigma \{ L_{\alpha_i} : \alpha_i \in \Gamma_i \}$  and  $R_i \equiv \Sigma \{ R_{\alpha_i} : \alpha_i \in \Gamma_i \}$  be the structure decompositions of  $L_i$

and  $R_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , respectively. Then the structure decomposition of each  $E_i$  is  $E_i \equiv \Sigma\{L_{\alpha_i} \times R_{\alpha_i} : \alpha_i \in \Gamma_i\}$ . We identify each  $E_i$  with  $\Sigma\{L_{\alpha_i} \times R_{\alpha_i} : \alpha_i \in \Gamma_i\}$ . To construct the free product of the  $E_i$ , we can assume without loss of generality that  $E_i \cap E_j = \square$  if  $i \neq j$ , and we assume  $\cup\{L_{\alpha_i} : \alpha_i \in \Gamma_i, i \in I\} = L$ , say, and  $\cup\{R_{\alpha_i} : \alpha_i \in \Gamma_i, i \in I\} = R$ , say, are both disjoint unions. Let  $\Gamma = \{(\alpha_i)_{i \in I} : \alpha_i \in \Gamma_i^{(1)}, \text{ only finitely many but at least one } \alpha_i \text{ different from } 1\}$ . For convenience, we write simply  $(\alpha_i)$  instead of  $(\alpha_i)_{i \in I}$ . Let  $B$  be the subset of  $L \times R \times \Gamma$  consisting of  $(a, b, (\alpha_i))$  such that  $a \in L_{\alpha_j}$  and  $b \in R_{\alpha_k}$  for some  $\alpha_j \neq 1$  and  $\alpha_k \neq 1$  of  $(\alpha_i)$ . Hereafter, we sometimes denote such  $(a, b, (\alpha_i))$  by  $(a, b, (\alpha_i; j, k))$ . By  $e(\alpha_i)$  and  $f(\beta_j)$ , we mean elements  $e$  and  $f$  of  $L_{\alpha_i}$  and  $R_{\beta_j}$ , respectively. Define a product  $\circ$  on  $B$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & (a, b, (\alpha_i; j, k)) \circ (c, d, (\beta_i; m, n)) \\ &= (a \cdot e(\alpha_j \beta_j), f(\alpha_n \beta_n) \cdot d, (\alpha_i \beta_i)). \end{aligned}$$

Then it is clear that  $B(\circ)$  is a normal band, and we have the following theorem.

**THEOREM 2. 3.** Let  $E_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , be a family of normal bands, and let  $\Gamma_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , be the structure semilattice of  $E_i$ . Then  $B(\circ)$  is the free product of the  $E_i$  in the variety of normal bands. Moreover, the structure semilattice of  $B(\circ)$  is the free product of the  $\Gamma_i$ , in the variety of semilattices.

**COROLLARY 2. 4.** Let  $L_i$ ,  $i \in I$ , be a family of left

normal bands whose structure decompositions are  $L_i \equiv \Sigma \{ L_{\alpha_i} : \alpha_i \in \Gamma_i \}$ . Let  $L = \cup \{ L_{\alpha_i} : \alpha_i \in \Gamma_i, i \in I \}$ , and let  $\Gamma$  be a semilattice defined above. Set

$$E = \{ (a, (\alpha_i; j)) \in L \times \Gamma : a \in L_{\alpha_j}, \alpha_j \neq 1 \}.$$

Then  $E(o)$  is the free product of the  $L_i$  in the variety of left normal bands. Moreover, the structure semilattice of  $E(o)$  is isomorphic to the free product of the  $\Gamma_i$ , in the variety of semilattices.

COROLLARY 2. 5. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the variety of [left, right] normal bands. Let  $E_i, i \in I$ , be a family of [left, right] normal bands, and let  $B$  together with the monomorphisms  $\phi_i$  be the free product of  $E_i$ , in the variety of [left, right] normal bands. If  $F_i$  is a subset of  $E_i, i \in I$ , then  $\langle \cup \{ F_i \phi_i : i \in I \} \rangle_{\mathcal{A}}$  is isomorphic to the free product of the  $F_i$  in the variety of [left, right] normal bands.

### 3. Strong amalgamation

We shall first show that the variety of left normal bands has the strong amalgamation property. Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be left normal bands with a common subband  $U$ . Let the structure decompositions of  $L_1, L_2$  and  $U$  be  $L_1 \equiv \Sigma \{ L_1^\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma_1 \}$ ,  $L_2 \equiv \Sigma \{ L_2^\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma_2 \}$  and  $U \equiv \Sigma \{ U_\alpha : \alpha \in \Delta \}$ , respectively. We can assume without loss of generality that  $L_1 \cap L_2 = U$ ,  $\Gamma_1 \cap \Gamma_2 = \Delta$  and  $L_1^\alpha \cap L_2^\alpha = U_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in \Delta$ . Let  $L = L_1 \cup L_2$  and  $\Gamma = (\Gamma_1^{(1)} \times \Gamma_2^{(1)}) \setminus \{(1, 1)\}$ . It follows

from Corollary 2.4 that

$E = \{ (a, \alpha, \beta) \in L \times \Gamma : a \in L_1^\alpha \cup L_2^\beta, \alpha \in \Gamma_1^{(1)}, \beta \in \Gamma_2^{(1)} \}$   
is the free product of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  in the variety of left normal bands, if its product is defined by

$$(a, \alpha, \beta)(b, \gamma, \delta) = \begin{cases} (a \cdot e(\alpha\gamma), \alpha\gamma, \beta\delta) & \text{if } a \in L_1^\alpha, \\ (a \cdot e(\beta\delta), \alpha\gamma, \beta\delta) & \text{if } a \in L_2^\beta, \end{cases}$$

where  $e(\alpha)$  denotes an element of  $L_i^\alpha$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Hereafter,  $e(1)$  means 1.

We define a relation  $\theta$  on  $E$  as follows:

(3.1) For elements  $(a, \alpha, \beta), (b, \gamma, \delta)$  of  $E$ , define

$(a, \alpha, \beta) \theta_0 (b, \gamma, \delta)$  to mean that there exist

$\sigma \in \Delta$  and  $u \in U_\sigma$  such that

$$(a, \alpha, \beta) = (c_1, \xi_1, \eta_1)(u, \sigma, 1)(c_2, \xi_2, \eta_2),$$

$$(b, \gamma, \delta) = (c_1, \xi_1, \eta_1)(u, 1, \sigma)(c_2, \xi_2, \eta_2),$$

for some  $(c_1, \xi_1, \eta_1), (c_2, \xi_2, \eta_2) \in E^1$ .

Let  $\theta_1 = \theta_0^{-1} \cup \theta_0^t \cup 1$  and let  $\theta = \theta_1^t$ .

Then of course  $\theta$  is the congruence on  $E$  generated by

$\{ ((u, \sigma, 1), (u, 1, \sigma)) : u \in U_\sigma, \sigma \in \Delta \}$ . Since any

homomorphic image of a left normal band is also a left normal band,  $E/\theta$  is a left normal bands.

LEMMA 3.1. If  $(a, \alpha, 1) \theta (b, \beta, \gamma)$ , then there exist  
 $\sigma \in \Delta^1$  and  $u \in U_\sigma$  such that

$u \cdot e(\gamma) \in U$  and  $a = b(u \cdot e(\gamma))$  (in  $L_1$ ) if  $b \in L_1^\beta$ ,

$bu \in U$  and  $a = (bu) \cdot e(\beta)$  (in  $L_1$ ) if  $b \in L_2^\gamma$ ,

where  $U_1 = \{1\}$ .

Let  $\phi_i: L_i \rightarrow E/\theta$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , be mappings defined by



$$x\phi_1 = (x, \alpha, 1)\theta \quad \text{if } x \in L_1^\alpha,$$

$$y\phi_2 = (y, 1, \beta)\theta \quad \text{if } y \in L_2^\beta.$$

It is clear that  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are homomorphisms. Let  $x$  and  $y$  be elements of  $L_1^\alpha$  and  $L_2^\beta$ , respectively, such that  $x\phi_1 = y\phi_2$ . Then  $(x, \alpha, 1)\theta = (y, 1, \beta)\theta$ . By the lemma above, there exist  $\sigma, \tau \in \Delta^1$ ,  $u \in U_\sigma$  and  $v \in U_\tau$  such that  $x = yu$  and  $y = xv$ . Therefore,  $\alpha = \beta$  and  $x = xy = (yu)y = y$ . Hence  $\phi_1$  is a monomorphism. Similarly  $\phi_2$  is a monomorphism. By the definition (3.1), it is clear that  $\phi_1|U = \phi_2|U$ .

Next, we shall show that  $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 = U\phi_1$ . Let  $x$  and  $y$  be elements of  $L_1^\alpha$  and  $L_2^\beta$ , respectively, such that  $x\phi_1 = y\phi_2$ . Then  $(x, \alpha, 1)\theta = (y, 1, \beta)\theta$ . By the lemma above and its dual, there exist  $\sigma, \tau \in \Delta^1$ ,  $u \in U_\sigma$  and  $v \in U_\tau$  such that

$$yu \in U \quad \text{and} \quad (yu) \cdot 1 = x \quad (\text{in } L_1),$$

$$xv \in U \quad \text{and} \quad (xv) \cdot 1 = y \quad (\text{in } L_2).$$

Then  $x, y \in U$  and  $x = y$ . Thus we have  $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 \subseteq U\phi_1$ . It is obvious  $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 \supseteq U\phi_1$ . Hence  $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 = U\phi_1$ .

It is clear that  $\langle L_1\phi_1 \cup L_2\phi_2 \rangle = E/\theta$  and that  $E/\theta$  together with  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  is the colimit of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  amalgamating  $U$ , and we have the following theorem.

**THEOREM 3. 2.** We use notations defined above. Then  $E/\theta$  is the free product of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  amalgamating  $U$ , in the variety of left normal bands. Moreover, the structure semilattice of  $E/\theta$  is isomorphic to the free product of  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  amalgamating  $\Delta$ , in the variety of semilattices.

COROLLARY 3. 3. The variety of [left, right] normal bands has the strong amalgamation property.

COROLLARY 3. 4. The class of  $M[L.N, R.N]$ -inverse semigroups has the strong amalgamation property. Then the class of regular semigroups defined by a permutation identity has the strong amalgamation property.

The following example, due to T. E. Hall, shows that the variety of left regular bands does not have even the weak amalgamation property.

Example. Let  $S = \{ e, f, g, h \}$ ,  $T = \{ f, g, h, x, y \}$  and  $U = \{ f, g, h \}$  be a left regular band, a left normal band and a left zero semigroup, respectively, whose multiplications are defined as follows:

	e	f	g	h
e	e	g	g	h
f	f	f	f	f
g	g	g	g	g
h	h	h	h	h

	f	g	h	x	y
f	f	f	f	x	x
g	g	g	g	y	y
h	h	h	h	x	x
x	x	x	x	x	x
y	y	y	y	y	y

Suppose that there exists a semigroup  $W$  such that  $S \cup T$  can be embedded in  $W$ . Then, since  $W$  is associative,

$$ex = e(fx) = (ef)x = gx = y,$$

$$ex = e(hx) = (eh)x = hx = x.$$

Thus the elements  $x$  and  $y$  must coincide in  $W$ , a contradiction.

If  $\mathcal{A}$  is one of the varieties of rectangular bands, left zero semigroups, right zero semigroups and one element

semigroups, it is easy to see that  $\mathcal{A}$  has the strong amalgamation property. Then the following theorem follows from [ Corollary 1, 4 ], Corollary 3.3 and the example above.

**THEOREM 3. 5.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the variety of bands defined by an identity  $P = Q$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}$  has the strong amalgamation property if and only if  $P = Q$  is a permutation identity or a heterotypical identity.

#### 4. Special amalgamation

We have seen that the variety of left regular bands does not have even the weak amalgamation property. However, we shall show that it has the special amalgamation property.

Let  $L \equiv \Sigma\{ L_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma \}$  be a left regular band and  $U \equiv \Sigma\{ U_\alpha : \alpha \in \Delta \}$  a subband. We can assume without loss of generality that  $\Gamma \supseteq \Delta$  and  $L_\alpha \supseteq U_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in \Delta$ . Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be left regular bands which are isomorphic to  $L$  such that  $L_1 \cap L_2 = \square$ , and let  $v_i : L \rightarrow L_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , be isomorphisms. Let  $U_i = Uv_i$ ,  $L_i^\alpha = L_\alpha v_i$  and  $U_i^\beta = U_\beta v_i$  for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ ,  $\beta \in \Delta$  and  $i = 1, 2$ .

Let  $S$  be the free product of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  in the variety of left regular bands. Hereafter, let  $a_i$  mean "  $a_i$  is an element of  $L_i$  ", where  $i = 1$  or  $2$ . Define a relation  $\theta$  on  $S$  as follows:

$a_{i_1} a_{i_2} \dots a_{i_r} \theta b_{j_1} b_{j_2} \dots b_{j_s}$  if and only if there exist  $u$  in  $U$  and  $c_{k_1} c_{k_2} \dots c_{k_p}, d_{m_1} d_{m_2} \dots d_{m_q}$  in  $S^1$  such that

$$a_{i_1} a_{i_2} \dots a_{i_r} = c_{k_1} c_{k_2} \dots c_{k_p} (uv_1)^{d_{m_1}} d_{m_2} \dots d_{m_q},$$

$$b_{j_1} b_{j_2} \dots b_{j_s} = c_{k_1} c_{k_2} \dots c_{k_p} (uv_2)^{d_{m_1}} d_{m_2} \dots d_{m_p}.$$

Let  $\theta_1 = \theta_0 \cup \theta_0^{-1} \cup \iota$ , and let  $\theta = \theta_1^t$ .

It is clear that  $\theta$  is a congruence on  $S$ . Then  $S/\theta$  is a left regular band.

DEFINITION 4. 1. Let  $a$  be an element of  $L$ .

A sequence  $(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_n})$  of elements of  $L_1 \cup L_2$  is said to have property  $P_i(a)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , if there exist  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  in  $U^1$  such that

$$(i) \quad u_1 = 1,$$

$$(ii) \quad u_j (x_{i_j} v_{i_j}^{-1}) v_j \in U \quad \text{if } i_j \neq i,$$

$$(iii) \quad a = \prod_{j=1}^n u_j (x_{i_j} v_{i_j}^{-1}) v_j.$$

LEMMA 4. 2. Let  $a$  be an element of  $L_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ .

If  $a \theta x_{j_1} x_{j_2} \dots x_{j_r}$  (in  $S$ ), then  $(x_{j_1}, x_{j_2}, \dots, x_{j_r})$  has property  $P_i(av_i^{-1})$ .

Let  $\phi_i: L_i \rightarrow S/\theta$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , be mappings defined by

$$a\phi_i = a\theta \quad \text{for all } a \in L_i.$$

It is obvious that each  $\phi_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , is a homomorphism.

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be elements of  $L_i$  satisfying  $a\phi_i = b\phi_i$ .

Then  $a\theta = b\theta$ . By the lemma above, there exist  $u$  and  $v$  in  $U^1$  such that

$$a(uv_i) = b \quad \text{and} \quad b(vv_i) = a.$$

Since  $L_i$  is left regular,

$$a = b(vv_i) = bb(vv_i) = ba = bab$$

$$= a(uv_i)ab = a(uv_i)b = b,$$

and hence  $\phi_i$  is a monomorphism.

By the definition of  $\theta$ , it is obvious  $v_1\phi_1|U = v_2\phi_2|U$ . Let  $a$  and  $b$  be elements of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ , respectively, such that  $a\phi_1 = b\phi_2$ . Then we have  $a\theta = b\theta$ . By the lemma above, there exist  $u$  and  $v$  in  $U^1$  such that  $(av_1^{-1})u \in U$ ,  $(bv_2^{-1})v \in U$ ,  $bv_2^{-1} = (av_1^{-1})u$  and  $av_1^{-1} = (bv_2^{-1})v$ . Then we have  $av_1^{-1} = bv_2^{-1} \in U$ , and hence  $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 \subseteq Uv_1\phi_1$ . It is obvious that  $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 \supseteq Uv_1\phi_1$ . Therefore  $L_1\phi_1 \cap L_2\phi_2 = Uv_1\phi_1$ , and hence we have the following theorem.

**THEOREM 4. 3.** Let  $U$  be a subband of a left regular band  $L$ . We use the notations defined above. Then  $S/\theta$  is the free product of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  amalgamating  $U$  in the variety of left regular bands. Thus the variety of left regular bands has the special amalgamation property. Moreover, the structure semilattice of  $S/\theta$  is isomorphic to the free product of  $\Gamma$  amalgamating  $\Delta$  in the variety of semilattices.

**COROLLARY 4. 4.** The varieties of [right] regular bands and left [right] quasinormal bands have the special amalgamation property.

We can not answer whether or not the variety of bands has the special amalgamation property. There is a counterexample in [ 5 ] that the variety does not have the special amalgamation property. However, we remark the example is not true. So we raise the following problem.

**Problem 1.** Does the variety of bands have the special amalgamation property ?

An orthodox semigroup  $S$  is called a [left, right] generalized inverse semigroup if  $E(S)$  forms a [left, right] normal band. Let  $S$  be a left generalized inverse semigroup and  $U$  a left generalized inverse subsemigroup. Then  $S$  and  $U$  are isomorphic to the left quasi-direct products  $Q(L \otimes \Gamma; \Delta)$  and  $Q(V \otimes \Omega; \Lambda)$ , respectively, for some left normal bands  $L$  and  $V$  and for some inverse semigroups  $\Gamma(\Delta)$  and  $\Omega(\Lambda)$ . We can assume without loss of generality that  $L \supseteq V$ ,  $\Gamma \supseteq \Omega$  and  $\Delta \supseteq \Lambda$ . Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be left normal bands which are isomorphic to  $L$  such that  $L_1 \cap L_2 = \square$ , and let  $v_i: L \rightarrow L_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , be isomorphisms. Let  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  be inverse semigroups which are isomorphic to  $\Gamma$  such that  $\Gamma_1 \cap \Gamma_2 = \square$ , and let  $\pi_i: \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , be isomorphisms. Let  $V_i = Vv_i$ ,  $\Delta_i = \Delta\pi_i$ ,  $\Omega_i = \Omega\pi_i$  and  $\Lambda_i = \Lambda\pi_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Let  $L \equiv \Sigma\{L(\alpha): \alpha \in \Delta\}$  be the structure decomposition of  $L$ . Then the structure decomposition of each  $L_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , is  $L_i \equiv \Sigma\{L(\alpha)v_i: \alpha \in \Delta\} \simeq \Sigma\{L(\alpha_i): \alpha_i \in \Delta_i\}$ , where  $L(\alpha_i) = L(\alpha_i\pi_i^{-1})v_i$ . We identify each  $L_i$  with  $\Sigma\{L(\alpha_i): \alpha_i \in \Delta_i\}$ .

Let  $\Gamma^*$  be the free product of  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  in the class of semigroups, and let  $L^* = L_1 \cup L_2$ . For any element  $\alpha_{i_1}\alpha_{i_2}\dots\alpha_{i_n}$  in  $\Gamma^*$ ,  $\alpha_{i_j} \in \Gamma_{i_j}$ , let us denote  $(\alpha_{i_1}\pi_{i_1}^{-1})(\alpha_{i_2}\pi_{i_2}^{-1})\dots(\alpha_{i_n}\pi_{i_n}^{-1})$  by  $\overline{\alpha_{i_1}\alpha_{i_2}\dots\alpha_{i_n}}$ . Let  $T = \{(a, \alpha_{i_1}\alpha_{i_2}\dots\alpha_{i_n}) \in L^* \times \Gamma^*: a \in L_{i_1} \text{ and } a\overline{\alpha_{i_1}\alpha_{i_2}\dots\alpha_{i_n}}^{-1} \in L(\alpha_{i_1}\alpha_{i_2}\dots\alpha_{i_n}\alpha_{i_n}^{-1}\dots\alpha_{i_2}^{-1}\alpha_{i_1}^{-1})\}$ . Define a product on  $T$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & (a, \alpha_{i_1}\alpha_{i_2}\dots\alpha_{i_n})(b, \beta_{j_1}\beta_{j_2}\dots\beta_{j_m}) \\ &= (ac, \alpha_{i_1}\alpha_{i_2}\dots\alpha_{i_n}\beta_{j_1}\beta_{j_2}\dots\beta_{j_m}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $c$  is an element of  $L_{i_1}$  such that  $cv_{i_1}^{-1}$  is contained

in  $L(\alpha_{i_1} \alpha_{i_2} \dots \alpha_{i_n} \beta_{j_1} \beta_{j_2} \dots \beta_{j_m} \beta_{j_m}^{-1} \beta_{j_2}^{-1} \beta_{j_1}^{-1} \alpha_{i_n}^{-1} \dots \alpha_{i_2}^{-1} \alpha_{i_1}^{-1})$ .

Let  $\theta$  be a relation on  $T$  defined by

$(a, \alpha_{i_1} \alpha_{i_2} \dots \alpha_{i_n}) \theta (b, \beta_{j_1} \beta_{j_2} \dots \beta_{j_m})$  if and only

if  $\alpha_{i_1} \alpha_{i_2} \dots \alpha_{i_n} \sim \beta_{j_1} \beta_{j_2} \dots \beta_{j_m}$  and one of the

following conditions:

(i)  $a = b$  if  $i_1 = j_1$ ,

(ii) there exists  $v \in V$  such that

$$av_{i_1}^{-1} = bv_{j_1}^{-1} = v(v_{i_1}^{-1}) \quad \text{if } i_1 \neq j_1,$$

where  $\sim$  is the congruence on  $\Gamma^*$  such that  $\Gamma^*/\sim$  is the free product of  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  amalgamating  $\Delta$  in the class of inverse semigroups.

We can easily see that  $\theta$  is a congruence on  $T$ , and hence

$T/\theta$  is a left generalized inverse semigroups. Let

$(a, \alpha_{i_1} \alpha_{i_2} \dots \alpha_{i_n})\theta$  denote the  $\theta$ -class containing

$(a, \alpha_{i_1} \alpha_{i_2} \dots \alpha_{i_n})$ .

LEMMA 4.5. Let  $\phi_i: S_i \rightarrow T/\theta$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , be mappings defined by

$$(a, \alpha_i)\phi_i = (a, \alpha_i)\theta \quad \text{where } \alpha_i \in \Gamma_i, a \in L(\alpha_i \alpha_i^{-1}).$$

Then  $\phi_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , are monomorphisms satisfying the following two conditions:

$$(v_1, \pi_1)\phi_1|U = (v_2, \pi_2)\phi_2|U,$$

$$S_1\phi_1 \cap S_2\phi_2 = U(v_1, \pi_1)\phi_1 (= U(v_2, \pi_2)\phi_2),$$

where  $(v_i, \pi_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , are isomorphisms of  $S$  onto  $S_i$

defined by  $(v, \alpha)(v_i, \pi_i) = (vv_i, \alpha\pi_i)$  for  $(v, \alpha) \in S$ .

Moreover, the structure inverse semigroup of  $T/\theta$  is the free product  $\Gamma^*/\sim$  of  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  amalgamating  $\Delta$  in the class of inverse semigroups.

THEOREM 4. 6. The class of [left, right] generalized inverse semigroups has the special amalgamation property.

It is natural to raise the following problem.

Problem 2. Does the class of [left, right] generalized inverse semigroups have the strong amalgamation property ?

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